UNITED
NATIONS

ST

Secretariat

ST/IC/1996/16
6 March 1996

INFORMATION CIRCULAR

To: Members of delegations and staff

From: The Assistant Secretary-General for Conference and Support Services

Subject: FIRST DAY OF ISSUE: 1996 ENDANGERED SPECIES SERIES

STAMPS

1. On Thursday, 14 March 1996, the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) will issue the fourth set of stamps in its multi-year series on "Endangered species". The issue will consist of three sheets of 16 stamps in denominations of US$ 0.32, SwF 0.80 and S 7. Each sheet will illustrate four different endangered species. For the first time in this multi-year series, all stamps were designed by one artist, Diane Bruyninckx (Belgium).

(United States equivalents - SwF 0.80: US$ 0.69 and S 7: US$ 0.70 - subject to exchange rate fluctuation.)

96-05548 (E) 080396 110396

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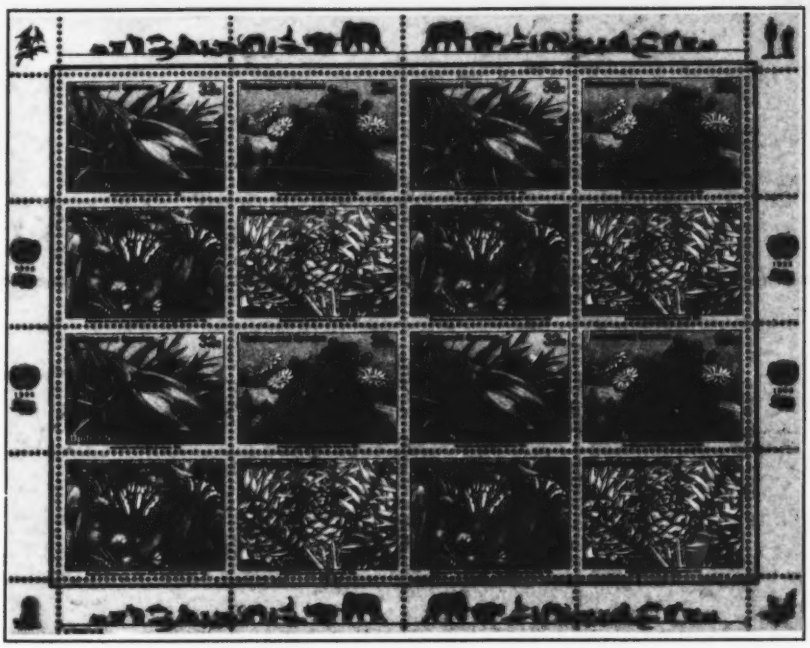


Denomination: US$ 0.32

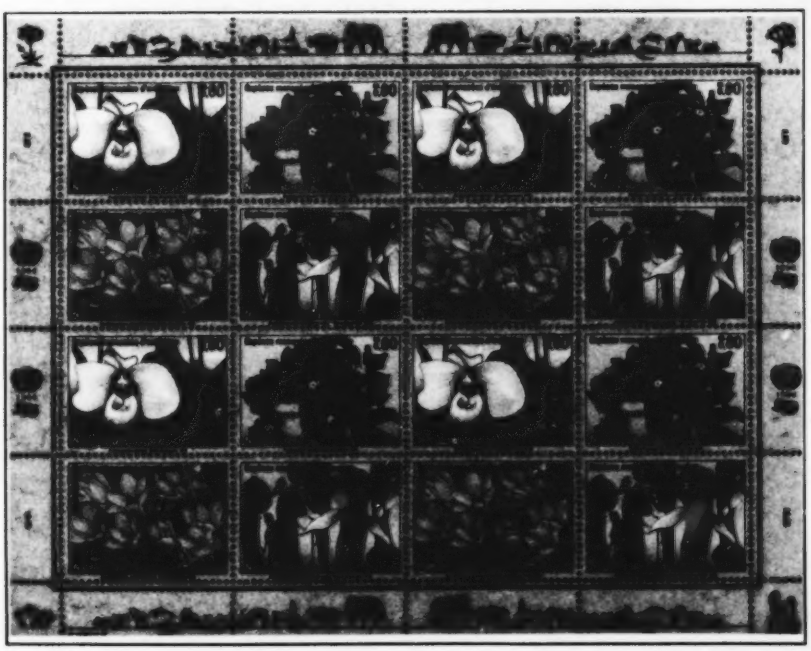
Endangered species:

Masdevallia veitchiana

Carnegiea gigantea
(Saguaro)

Cephalotus follicularis
(West Australian Pitcher Plant)

Encephalartos horridus



Denomination: SwF 0.80

Endangered species:

Paphiopedilum delenatii

Pachypodium baronii

Sternbergia lutea
(Winter Daffodil)

Darlingtonia Californica
(Cobra Lily)

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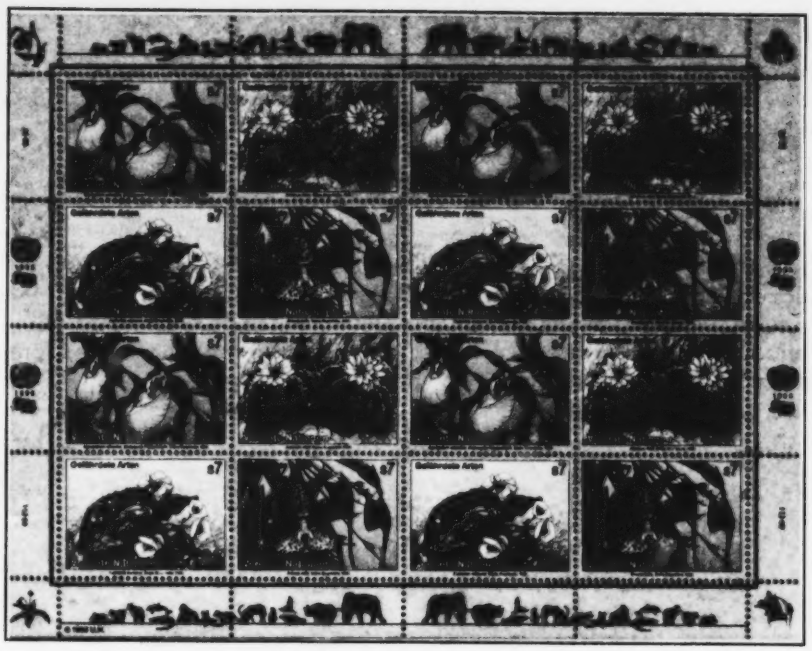

Denomination: S 7

Endangered species:

Cypripedium calceolus
(Lady's Slipper Orchid)

Aztekium ritteri

Euphorbia cremersii

Dracula bella

MAXIMUM CARDS

2. The twelfth set of maximum cards will also be issued on 14 March 1996. Three different cards will be produced to accommodate the three different se-tenant blocks of four stamps being issued. The appropriate se-tenant blocks of stamps will be affixed and cancelled first day of issue relevant to the respective office. The maximum card cancelled United Nations New York will sell for $1.58. The cancelled United Nation Geneva is priced at $3.06, while the cancelled United Nations Vienna is priced at $3.10, subject to exchange rate fluctuations.

1996 ENDANGERED SPECIES ANNUAL COLLECTION

3. UNPA will release the 1996 Endangered species annual collection folder on 14 March 1996. The specially designed album will devote separate pages to each of the 12 endangered species. The album will contain information in English, French and German and be beautifully highlighted by an array of colourful photographs relative to the species. The mint edition of the folder will contain the 12 endangered species stamps not affixed inside the album although spaces and mounts have been provided for this purpose. The cancelled edition of the folder will have the stamps affixed and cancelled first day of issue in New York, Geneva and Vienna as appropriate. Each of the folders will sell for $8.09, subject to exchange rate fluctuations.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

4. For the convenience of collectors, UNPA at Headquarters will provide prepared and cancelled New York, Geneva and Vienna first-day covers on the UNPA official first-day cachets ONLY.

5. Owing to the need to curtail expenses, the new stamps and hand cancellations can be purchased by members of delegations and staff members from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on 14 March 1996 ONLY at the UNPA sales counter in the concourse of the General Assembly Building. There will be no outposted UNPA sales counters in the Secretariat Building until further notice.

6. Staff members are encouraged to use United Nations stamps on their personal mail. By doing so, these miniature messengers of peace can educate unseen thousands of people to the activities and goals of the United Nations.

7. Information on United Nations stamps can be accessed on the Internet at the United Nations Web server (http://WWW.UN.ORG) under the "Publications and Sales" icon.